

A new species of *Oligota* (Coleoptera, Staphylinidæ) from Morocco

by

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With 1 figure

ABSTRACT

Oligota (*Oligota* s. str.) *besucheti* n. sp. from Morocco is described and figured.

Amongst a small collection of *Oligota* from Morocco collected by Dr. C. Besuchet consisting mainly of *O. pusillima* (Gravenhorst) and *O. tugertana* Fauvel was a rather larger species which when the aedeagus was examined proved to be new to science. I have named it after its distinguished captor.

Oligota (*Oligota* s. str.) *besucheti* n. sp. (Fig. 1)

Length 1.2 mm, width 0.40 mm. Body subparallel. Body yellow brown or reddish brown. Legs yellow brown. Antennae yellow at the base with darker segments forming the club. Head and pronotum with fine sculpture in the form of minute round very low tubercles. Elytra and terga with moderate, close sculpture in the form of small, flat topped very low tubercles. Pubescence moderate. Antennae with a three segmented club which is not clearly defined. Aedeagus long and slender, strongly curved downwards at the apex. With no visible spermatheca.

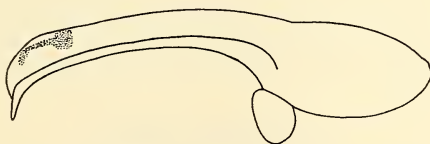


FIG. 1.

Aedeagus of *Oligota Besucheti*.

TYPE MATERIAL: Holotype ♂, Marocco, Agadir, 7.iv.1974, Cl. Besuchet. Paratypes (9): with the same locality as holotype, 4 ex.; Tamrhart/Agadir, 9.iv.1974, 3 ex; Tamraght, 10.iv.1974, 2 ex.

Holotype deposited in the Museum d'Histoire naturelle, Geneva. Paratypes at the Museum d'Histoire naturelle, Geneva, and the British Museum (Natural History) London.

O. besucheti could be confused with *O. tugertana* but may be distinguished from this species by its; larger size, closer and finer sculpture on the elytra and in particular by the aedeagus which is clearly longer and less curved at the apex (see WILLIAMS 1973 for figure of *tugertana* aedeagus). It may also be confused with other parallel sided *Oligota* that occur in Marocco: *pusillima*, *pumilio* Kiesenwetter, *inflata* Mannerheim and *punctulata* Heer but can be readily separated from these species if the aedeagus is examined (the aedeagus of all these species are figured by Williams, 1970).

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- WILLIAMS, S. A., 1970, Notes on the genus *Oligota* (Col., Staphylinidae) and key to the British species. *Entomologist's mon. Mag.* 106: 54-62.
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